

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VALLET 00342 251903Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 AID-05 OMB-01
TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
/094 W

-----260744Z 108223 /22

R 251815Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7292
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L VALLETTA 0342

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, FR, IT, MT
SUBJECT: MINTOFF LETTER TO ANDREOTTI

REF: VALLETTA 0341,

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER TO ANDREOTTI FROM MINTOFF
DATED MARCH 24, COPY OF WHICH GIVEN ME TODAY BY
MAURICE ABELA:

BEGIN TEXT:

ALTHOUGH LATER THAN PROMISED BY YOUR EXCELLENCY AT
OUR LAST MEETING IN ROME, THE ITALO-MALTESE-FRENCH
DISCUSSIONS AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL ON THE POLITICAL
DETAILED CLARIFICATIONS OF MALTA'S PROPOSAL FOR EURO-ARAB
GUARANTEES OF ITS NONALIGNED STATUS AFTER THE END OF
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 VALLET 00342 251903Z

MARCH 1979, WERE SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED ON FEBRUARY 4TH
OF THIS YEAR.

WHEN WE PRESSED FOR AN URGENT DECISION BY YOUR
GOVERNMENT WE WERE LED TO BELIEVE THAT NO FURTHER
PROGRESS WAS POSSIBLE BEFORE DETAILED CONSULTATIONS TOOK
PLACE BY YOU WITH YOUR PARTNERS AND ALLIES IN EUROPE.

AS YOU KNOW, I HAVE UNSUCCESSFULLY TRIED TO MEET YOU IN ROME BEFORE THE COMMUNITY HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING IN YOUR CAPITAL THIS WEEK-END. I HAVE NEVERTHELESS SENT YOU MESSAGES MAKING IT CLEAR THAT AFTER A FIFTEEN MONTH PERIOD OF HALF-HEARTED RESPONSE ON THIS ISSUE ON THE PART OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT, MALTA WAS NOT PREPARED TO SEE ANOTHER MEETING OF THE HEADS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY TAKE PLACE WITHOUT REACHING A CLEAR-CUT NEGATIVE OR POSITIVE DECISION ON MALTA'S PROPOSAL. WE ALSO INFORMED YOU THAT A LACK OF DECISION WOULD BE CONSIDERED ON OUR PART AS A NEGATIVE ANSWER.

AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE MAIN PURPOSE OF MY VISIT TO LONDON YESTERDAY WAS THEREFORE TO URGE THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, WHO CURRENTLY CHAIR THE MEETINGS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, TO HELP YOU BRING ABOUT A DECISION FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ACCEPTING THE EURO-ARAB SOLUTION FOR AFTER MARCH 1979 PROPOSED BY THE MALTESE GOVERNMENT.

TO MY GREAT SURPRISE THE BRITISH FOREIGN MINISTER STATED CATEGORICALLY THAT NEITHER ITALY NOR FRANCE REQUIRED THE CONSENT OF THE OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO SIGN THE TREATY OF GUARANTEE PROPOSED BY MALTA. THE COMMUNITY - WE WERE TOLD - HAD NO STANDING IN THE MATTER. HE APPRECIATED OUR DIFFICULTIES IN NEGOTIATING THE SECOND STAGE OF OUR ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT UNTIL IT WAS KNOWN WHICH OF THE ALTERNATIVE POLITICAL SOLUTIONS OPEN TO MALTA COULD USEFULLY BE PURSUED. HE ALSO ACCEPTED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 VALLET 00342 251903Z

THAT IT WAS USUAL FOR ONE MEMBER TO INFORM THE OTHERS ON POLITICAL MATTERS SUCH AS THE FUTURE OF MALTA AFTER MARCH 1979; BUT HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE COMMUNITY HAD NOT BEEN ASKED TO EXPRESS A VIEW ON THE MALTESE PROPOSAL AND NO DECISION WAS - OR INDEED COULD BE - EXPECTED FROM THE COMMUNITY.

THE BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY HAS KINDLY PROMISED TO BRING INFORMALLY TO THE ATTENTION OF YOUR FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE OTHER FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE COMMUNITY A GIST OF OUR DISCUSSIONS AND IN PARTICULAR, MALTA'S INABILITY TO WAIT BEYOND THE STIPULATED DATE.

NOW THAT WE ARE CONVINCED THERE ARE REALLY NO INSURMOUNTABLE OBSTACLES FOR THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TO REACH A DECISION THIS WEEK-END, OR AT THE LATEST EARLY NEXT WEEK, WE FEEL IN DUTY BOUND TO INFORM YOU THAT YOU SHOULD CONSIDER OUR PROPOSAL WITHDRAWN IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE A FAVOURABLE ANSWER BEFORE THE END OF THIS MONTH.

PLEASE ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE ASSURANCE OF MY
HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

DOM MINTOFF

PRIME MINISTER

END TEXT. LAINGEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, SOVEREIGNTY, NONALIGNED NATIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977VALLET00342
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770104-0436
Format: TEL
From: VALLETTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770320/aaaaaqj.tel
Line Count: 122
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6c20d0b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 VALLETTA 341
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2990874
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MINTOFF LETTER TO ANDREOTTI
TAGS: PFOR, FR, IT, MT, (ANDREOTTI, GIULIO), (MINTOFF, DOMINIC)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6c20d0b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009